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In the Heart of Virginia's Dark Tobacco Belt
Appomattox, Virginia

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THE COMMITTEE FINALLY REPORTS

The long-awaited and heralded report of the Commission to study education in Virginia, headed by State Senator Garland Gray, is now in the hands of the Governor. A special session of the General Assembly is obviously the next move in the approach to problems created by the Supreme Court's decision of last year regarding integration.

As was to be expected, the Gray Commission report has met with varying reaction. Some feel that it did not go far enough to protect the rights of those opposed to integretion; others feel that it was about all that could have been expected. In our opinion, the report must be looked upon for what it was and is: advisory only. In event the special session is called, and a constitutional convention is authorized, then it will be of the utmost importance that an able membership be named for that constitutional convention. That is where the decision will be made as to the future of education in the Old Dominion.

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THANKSGIVING, 1955

Thanksgiving Day, which falls on the last Thursday of this month, comes early this year, on the 24th. Thus, the interval between this November religious observance and Christmas is a full month this year.

Business men always welcome an early Thanksgiving, since it leaves more time for Christmas shopping and hunters also enjoy an early Thanksgiving Day, since it means an earlier hunting season in many states.

Our National Thanksgiving — which the day was first called by Sarah J. Hale, who is credited with having begun the national observance of Thanksgiving Day in the United States in 1863—is certainly a day of richness, reward and satisfaction in the United States in 1955. Prosperity is everywhere, the country is at peace, and a spirit of plenty is evident.

Americans should never lose sight of the fact that they are more blessed than any other people on earth, materially. We should give thanks, and try to make ourselves worthy of these blessings, spiritually.

We in America have come a long way since that New England day, in the autumn of 1621, when Governor Bradford ordered some of the colonists into the forests to shoot a number of turkeys. That night, Indians, who had brought deer, and colonialists who had shot turkeys feasted together. It was probably the first Thanksgiving Day in the United States, although historians point to earlier dates in some of he other areas of settlement.

Every American should give thanks, in his prayers, for the American heritage, our freedom, including religious freedom, and all that goes to make up the riches and wealth of this country. Unless we spiritually deserve these belssings, they will be of little value to us, and we hope that Thanksgiving Day, 1955, will be a day of rededication to spiritual principles for many Americans.

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FIRES OF FALL

Outdoor fires each fall cost American people billions of dollars and account for a number of tragic accidents, which take many lives. The brisk, fall smell of leaves burning, or of straw or other rake-piles, is nostalgic, but it often produces a very poor ending.

To avoid uncontrolled fires, and the tragic results which occur in their wake, the accident prevention unit of the Maryland State Department of Health offered several sugestions. Among them were:

1. Burn only in areas where fires are permitted.
2. Never start on outdoor fire on a windy day.
3. Clear an area around the spot where the fire is to be started.
4. If possible, hook up the garden hose for use in an emergency.
5. Use a covered wire mesh basket for burning trash and leaves, when possible.
6. Never start a fire near buildings or near overhanging trees or eaves.
7. Keep children away from fires, and never leave a fire until you are sure it is completely out.

We suggest that you follow these rules, since they will save you, and your community, not only dollars, but lives, and preserve the beauty of the countryside, an asset too valuable to be defaced carelessly, as we so often do.

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The West hasn't won any international conferences we can remember, but the Western powers did avoid losing this last one.

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Going to church is a habit everybody—even the wealthy and elderly individual—should nourish. Attended often enough, something good is sure to "take" as a result.

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Now that doctors believe they have an innoculation on the way to prevent severe colds, we suspect we will not have any this season.

THE FARM BELT

The very practical consideration underlying the worries of many Republican officials concerning the Eisenhower Administration's farm program is to be seen when one looks closely at the Farm Belt. The Farm Belt, so-called, includes in it eight states which pack a 131-vote electoral count.

These eight states may well be the key to success or failure of a Republican candidate's Presidential bid in 1956. At this stage, it appears that they are likely to be decisive.

The eight states we have in mind are Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Missouri, Iowa, Minnesota, Wisconsin and Michigan.

An interesting clue to their importance in Presidential elections can be seen by checking on the effect of their vote in 1948 and 1952 Presidential elections. In 1948, when Harry Truman surprised many prognosticators and was returned to the White House for another four years, six of these eight states, with 98 electrial votes, went for Truman.

In 1952, when President Eisenhower won over Adlai Stevenson, all eight of these states and their 131 electoral votes, went to Mr. Eisenhower. The importance of these 131 electoral votes can be seen when one considers the fact that the Sotuh has about the same number of electoral votes and when one realizes that it takes only 266 electoral votes to elect.

If the South supports the Democratic candidate by a wide margin, then the Farm Belt can elect or defeat the Democratic candidate. This is why the Democrats are now going all out to make the farm situation a major issue in the 1956 campaign. That is also why pressure is building up for a change, or a "new look" in the Eisenhower Administration's farm program.

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This is the time to advertise your Christmas goods. Shopping has already begun.

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Many a person eats away his insides being envious of others, and thereby destroys his own personality.

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If the almanacs are right, your heating bills this year will be higher than they have been in a decade.

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Thanksgiving is a good time of the year — for thanksgiving.

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Money is only one ingredient of life's secret of happiness.

WHY BUY STATE FARM?

Our Semi-Annual Premium Plan makes Auto Insurance payments easy-to-budget, easy-to-meet, costs you nothing extra. For more information, call me today . . .
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Advertisement

From where I sit ... *by* Joe Marsh

Seen Monk's "Better Half"?

Monk McCarthy's latest creation has the town talking again. You can see it parked in front of Monk's auto repair shop on Maple.

Remember last year Monk cut two cars in half, and put their front ends together? You couldn't tell if the thing was coming or going. Sure attracted attention.

Now Monk's taken Tog Morgan's old sedan and completely restored one half of it. One side is as good as new, the other looks like—well, Tog's old car. "Sort of a before-and-after demonstration," Monk told me, "shows folks the kind of work I do."

From where I sit, some of Monk's ideas may look a little wild sometimes ... but I wouldn't want to tell him how to run his business any more than I'd like *him* to tell *me* what beverage to enjoy. He always keeps a hot pot of tea in his garage—I'd rather have a cold glass of beer—but respect for each other's opinion is "auto"-matic with us both.

Joe Marsh

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...An ELECTRIC Blanket!

A gift that gives pleasure and comfort is a gift that will be long remembered. When you give an electric blanket, you give a gift of cozy comfort ... and a gift of good, healthful pleasure.

Restful sleep comes easily under the snug warmth of a blanket you set to the desired temperature. Chilling, broken sleep and tension won't enter the picture. And today's safety-sure electric blankets store easily, are portable . . . they're washable and end the bother of storing and caring for several blankets.

For that special anniversary, wedding or birthday . . . and don't forget Christmas . . . whatever the occasion, your gift will be enthusiastically received —and used—when you choose an electric blanket!

Your Favorite Electric Dealer has a wide selection of modern electric blankets!

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THE BIBLE SPEAKS

International Uniform Sunday School Lessons

By KENNETH J. FOREMAN

Printed Scripture: Luke 7: 8-22.
Second Reading: Romans 8:31-39.

Powers of God

Lesson for November 20, 1955

There is no doubt did many ordinary things, such as paying his bill and eating his breakfast. It would be that he "never did anything ordinary thing in an ordinary way." How would he pay you have cared for lumber for his master shop? How would he eat as a breakfast companion?

While it is also true that the records show he did some extraordinary, no extraordinary in fact that no one could describe Dr. Foreman
the Gospel writers, all of whom, of course, used Greek, used a word meaning sometimes one meaning "miracle," and sometimes that means "power." Some Greek words is translated in different ways. For example the Greek word "dynamis" (power) is translated in the King James version "power" in Luke 5:17, "virtue" in 6:19, "mighty works" in 10:13, "miracles" in Acts 2:22.

Let off

We can get into all kinds of sterile and endless arguments about the "miracles" of the New Testament. They are not always labeled as such, or labeled with that word. The Gospels will just tell what Jesus did, and let the reader draw his own conclusions.

But they all agree on is that Jesus performed acts of power which no one else could match. He did these things as naturally as we would pick a blackberry (unusually but perhaps not so easily). He himself expressed this could perceive "power" going out of him. (Luke 8:46, R.S.V.)

No matter how hard it may be to understand Jesus' miracles, we can surely say three things about them. One is that he did not do them "just to be doing them." They were never aimless, or at random.

Further, they never had the air of showing off. To the end of his days Jesus was beset by demands from the Pharisees and others, to show a "sign from heaven." One of his early temptations was to cast himself down from a pinnacle of the Temple and let God or his angels to see that he did not get hurt in the fall. But he did not yield to that temptation.

The Wash

One striking fact about his miracles is that he never wasted power. He never did what others could do. When he fed the five thousand he got the people to sit down in orderly fashion and got his disciples to help distribute the food. One would suppose it would have been just as easy for him to provide for every person present a loaf and a fish suddenly instead of a loaf; but Jesus did not work that way. Or again, after the tremendous miracle of restoring the little daughter of Jairus—instead of producing food for her himself by a miracle, he gives orders to the family that the little girl something to eat. When he healed the paralytic he told him to pick up his bed and go home.

Must Be Doing Good

Peter, who was far more impressed by Jesus' miracles than he said, summed up his feeling when he said that Jesus went with divine power "doing good." All of Our Lord's acts of power were always done for the benefit of persons. This is the distinction between Christ's miracles and those done, or alleged to be done, by magic. Your true magic-worker makes a point of sticking pins in it, hoping thereby to inflict pain or disease on someone. Whether or not there is anything real, magic is always by intention. Jesus' miracles, on the contrary were always beneficent, but the exact opposite. They were acts of good-will, generous help. Jesus never let genies out of bottles to be created fire-breathing dragons; he never produced a flood or death. All his miracles truly restored health, strength, gave food to the hungry, sight to the blind . . . yes, even hope to the poor. For example, John the Baptist's disciples saw the acts of power he was performing, but missed the climax not only of the dead, but the good news to the poor. Even a miracle we still too sel-

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Cut and Replace Trees

Removing timber that is ready for harvest is just as good a practice as combining wheat at the proper time. Yet, a good farmer does not leave the land without a cover—usually lespedeza or Red Clover has been saved to provide cover and feed. Timber land should be treated likewise.

The picture above shows the stump of a tree and beside it is a young loblolly pine that was set following the harvested timber. The seedling is now three years old. When hard woods are cut it is a good practice to treat the stump with amate. This kills the root, thus preventing sprouting that would compete with the young seedling. A practice of this type maintains a perpetual forest of desirable timber.

If seedlings have not been ordered for your farm, do so soon. Applications forms are available from your County Agent, Vocational-Agricultural Instructor, Soil-Technician, or Forester.

COPS LOSE LOITERER

Oklahoma City.- After arresting a 16-year-old yeath for loitering, city police took him to the finger-printing room of the city jail, and then momentarily, forgot about him. The loiterer hasn't been seen since.

WASHINGTON NOTES

MAIL EARLY

The Post Office Department has begun its annual "Shop early - Mail early" plea for the coming Christmas season. Postal officials expect the largest Christmas mail load in history this year annd announced that the nation's railroads are joining the department in its drive for early mailings to promote speedier deliveries.

FARM DOLLAR

The farmer's share of what the housewife spends for food is expected to be shaved further next year, according to an Agriculture Department estimate, which said the farmer's portion of the consumer's food dollar in 1956 will be around 40 cents, compared with 41 cents this year and 43 cents in 1954. But because of higher marketing charges —up 3 per cent in the third quarter of 1955 from a year ago—only a fraction of the farm price drop was passed along to consumers.

LIVING COSTS

Gabriel Hauge, President Eisenhower's economic advisor, recently predicted that the cost of living may creep up in the months ahead, while the boom in industrial output could taper off. He recommended that the Government keep a sharp eye out for any danger signals and be ready to use its powers "in a flexible manner" to combat any downward trend in the economy.

U. S. PAYROLL CUT

The number of Federal jobholders dropped 18,968 in September for the first monthly net decrease since January, according to Senator Harry F. Iyrd, head of the Joint Committee on Reduction of Non-essential Expenditures. Civilian employment on the Government payroll stood at 2,366,075 in September.

FACTORY SALES

Manucturers' sales totaled $27,700,000,000 in September, slightly higher than in August and $4,000,000,000 higher than September of 1954, according to the Commerce Department. New orders placed with manufacturers during the month totaled $28,500,000,000, somewhat lower than in August after adjustment for seasonal differences, but $4,500,000,000 higher than in September, 1954.

U. S. BIG LANDOWNER

A total of 161,500,000 acres in the United States and Alaska are under the control of the Bureau of Land Management of the Department of Interior. This land, consisting mostly of woodlands, is estamited to contain 260,000,000 moard feet of saw timber and another 212,000,000,000 board feet of non - commercial timber.

FARM INCOME

The Agriculture Department recently reported that farm net income for the third quarter of this year reached an annual rate of $10,300,000,000, about 5 per cent below the previous quarter and ten per cent below the third quarter rate in 1954. The decline is attributed mainly to lower prices of farm products accompanied by only small reduction in expense.

PERSONAL INTEREST

The American people paid a new high of $3,000,000,000 for personal interest on loans in 1954, according to a recent report by the Commerce Department.

Farm crops in 1955 are the second highest of record.

Trabert sings a pro tennis pace for reported $75,000.

Appomattox is a growing town.

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Septic Tanks
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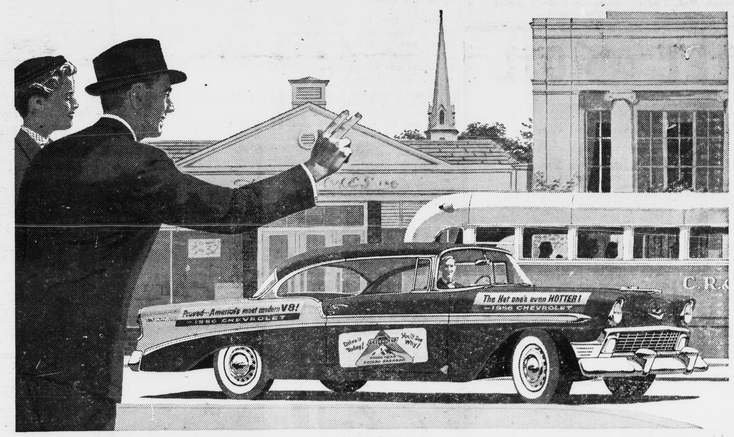

We've got these new '56 Chevrolet demonstrators cruising the streets to make it easy for you to drive the car that shattered the Pikes Peak record. When you see one, wave it to the curb—and take the wheel. You'll discover all the things that make this new Chevy a champ!

Here's the car that challenged a mountain—and won! The car that smashed the Pikes Peak record—*proving* it has the qualities that mean safer, surer driving control!

Like to drive 'er? Like to see why we say the hot one's even *hotter* this year? Want to sample all the things that make this '56 Chevy a champ?

That's easy. Just flag down one of these new Chevrolet demonstrators we've got cruising the streets—and take over!

You'll feel the handling ease that took the twists out of the winding Pikes Peak road. And you'll see what we mean by record-breaking power. These Chevrolets are powered by the new 205 h.p. "Super Turbo-Fire V8"—an extra-cost option that pours out all the action you could ever ask for!

So, give one of our new Chevys the high sign—just for fun. Watch for us—and we'll be watching for you!

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THE HOT ONE'S EVEN HOTTER

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